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| About Sevilla: Plaza de EspañaAbout Sevilla: Real MaestranzaAbout Sevilla: Plaza de España |

Seville is located in the South of Spain. A provincial capital, seat of the government and parliament of the Comunidad Autónoma de Andalucía (Regional Government). It has more than 700,000 inhabitants, nearly half the population of the whole province. The city of Seville is located on the plain of the Guadalquivir river which crosses the city from North to South. The river can be navigated from Seville all the way to its outlet near Sanlúcar de Barrameda, on the Atlantic coast. In the past the port of Seville played an important role in commerce between Spain and the Americas and it remains today one of the most active river ports of the Iberian peninsula.

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| The Tartessians were the original founders of Hispalis. Next to this settlement, in 207 B.C., the Romans built Itálica. It was the centre of their Western Mediterranean dominions for seven centuries until the Roman empire was overrun by Northern barbarians at the beginning of the 10th century. The long Moorish occupation of the Iberian peninsula, from 711 A.D. to 1248 A.D., left indelible traces in Seville as in all of Al-Andalus. La Giralda, the tower of an important mosque, is the most well-known of the remaining Islamic monuments. In 1492 Seville played an important role in the discovery and conquest of America. The 17th century was a period of artistic splendour in Seville. Painters such as Velázquez, Murillo and Valdés Leal, and sculptors like Martínez Montañés were born in Seville and left behind important works. The city also assumed an important role in world literature and was the birthplace of the myth of Don Juan. On two occasions in the 20th century Seville has been in the spotlight of the world's attention. In 1929, it hosted the Latin American Exhibition, which left important urban improvements in the city. More recently, Expo 92 reinforced the image of Seville as a modern and dynamic city. |  |

Don't miss out on the tapas. The city is credited with the invention and has more than a thousand bars where the choice of food, is virtually unlimited, from seafood to ham and sausage and from vegetable to cheese. The Sevillians actually make a meal of. them, moving from bar to bar and trying one dish at a time.

A short stopover in Barcelona can be just the thing to get the most out of your visit to Spain. Barcelona has a very different vibe than Seville. Seville. is in the heart of Andalusia, with its Moorish influence and Flamenco heartbeat. [**Barcelona**](http://www.easytobook.com/en/barcelona-hotels/) is situated on the Mediterranean Sea and has a cosmopolitan pulse. A short stop can be easily arranged via easytobook.com. Besides hotels in the city center, they also offer hotels near the airport. For instance the [**Best Western**](http://www.easytobook.com/en/barcelona-hotels/best-western-alfa-aeropuerto-barcelona/) hotel is situated only three kilometers from the airport.